DXpedition News

Pratus Island - BV9 An international group of operators is heading for the potential new DXCC country of Pratus Island BV9, for a ten-day operation beginning June 26. (In event of transportation problems, the operation will start July 5.) Callsign is **BV9P**. Activity will be on CW, SSB, and RTTY on the usual DX frequencies. No 80 nor 160 meters; those bands aren't allocated to amateurs in Taiwan. A petition for separate country status for Pratus is currently under discussion by the DX Advisory Committee. Pratus lies some 240 miles from the closest point of Taiwan, and is the site of a Taiwanese military base. There don't appear to be any intervening islands that would prevent Pratus from qualifying as a New One. More details about the operating team and QSL route will follow in future issues.

Edited by Chod Harris VP2ML

The DX Bulletin

America's Premier Weekly Amateur Radio Publication

Islands On The Air

- **4K3RRC** is currently active from the Barents Sea Islands (EU-082). Try the IOTA frequency of 14260 kHz. QSL via I1HYW.
- **DAØIMD** is on the East Frisian Islands (EU-047); try the IOTA frequencies.
- **FT5YE** is on (AN-016); try the IOTA frequency of 14260 kHz at 0500Z. (EADX.)
- **JA6KFY** is a resident on Kyushu Island (AS-077); try 14260 kHz at 1800Z.
- **YC8DYZ** is a resident on Ternate Island (OC-145); **YB9MPK** is a resident on Timor (OC-148). EADX.)
- **E22DX** is the expected callsign of HS1HSJ from Chang Island, a New One for IOTA, in late June or early July. (DXNS.)

Shortly Noted

- **Libya 5A**: OPDX reports that Romeo's 5A operation will begin this week. Murph W4WMQ talked to Romeo in Sofia, Bulgaria, on Sunday June 13, and Romeo reported that the operation would take place in 3-5 days.
- **3V/I1RBJ** Paul says he will operate from Djerba Island, a New One for IOTA, July 1-8th. This would count for Tunisia, if Paul can pull it off. (OPDX.)
- **Jim Rafferty N6RJ** died Sunday June 13, of melanoma. Jim was a much-travelled DXpeditioner, supporter of DX activities through Ham Radio Outlet, former DXAC member, and, most recently, the person who kept the CT country files up-to-date. Jim has been one of DX's most knowledgeable, conscientious, and dedicated members.
- **St. Peter and St. Paul Rocks** is the target of the Brazilian Natal DX Group, in early 1994. The group is presently trying to raise the US$4,000 needed for the operation. In addition to direct funding, they also seek a small laptop/notebook computer for RTTY operation, and amplifiers and preamplifiers for possible satellite operation. Donations should be sent by registered airmail to the Natal DX Group at Caixa Postal 385, 59001-970 Natal RN, Brasil.
- **YS1DRF** Rich in El Salvador promises to be more active in the future; look for him on CW on the new bands. QSL via W2PD.
- **ZL1AMO** Ron Wright is on the DXpedition trail again. He has been noted signed **3D2RW** from Fiji, but no word on his travel plans. Remember that Ron listens **below** his transmitting frequency on CW, even when signing 'up.' QSL ZL1AMO, direct only, please.
- **ZS8MI** on Marion Island is again active. OPDX says op Christy has US skeds on 14277 kHz at 05Z (or 03Z), and on 21393 or 28480 kHz at 16Z (or 14Z). QSL this operation via ZS1CDK, with US$2 and SAE, please.
- **9Z4LX** is a special-event station June 14-20 celebrating Amateur Radio Awareness Week in Trinidad and Tobago. QSL to WA2NHA. (W1AW/OPDX.)
- The **N9NS/KH5K** QSL cards won't be out before July at the earliest; Mike N9NS apologizes for the delays; please don't send follow-up cards yet. The group made nearly 23,000 QSOs, about 2/3 on SSB.
- **IK6BAK/beacon** is in 24-hour operation on 24915 kHz with 10 watts, and on 18068 kHz with 5 watts, with vertical antennas.
- **SSB Net** check-ins: **14160** kHz (21Z): EP2HZ; **14227** kHz: (11,21Z) A71BH 5W1UC BV2FA HSØZAL HSØZAK OD5JY OX3KM 4N5JA J73PB V63DJ; **14247:** (23Z) VE2TVU (Zone 2) YI1BGD TA1AR C21JM J28BM KH3/WA1GIR HBØ/KB5RQ; **21335**: (14Z) S21ZG TN1AT.
- **RTTY**: Spots: **A45XC** 14087 1530Z; **XT2BW** 24086 0645Z; **5X1C** 21087 1925Z; **SU1AH** 14087 2010Z; **S21A** 14085 1635Z; **YI1IIS** 21086 1205Z; **HH2JR** 14081 2025Z; **ET3SID** 21076 1708Z; **5Z4FM** 21083 1415Z; **7Z1IS** 14085 0400Z.

Propagation

Forecast and Historical Data

Day	Forecast	27 Days Before				55 Days Before			
June 1993		Date	Flux	A	K	Date	Flux	A	K
18	Above Normal	5/22	92	01/05	1	4/24	129	07/08	2
19	Above Normal	5/23	95	01/04	0	4/25	125	13/13	1
20	Above Normal	5/24	98	02/03	1	4/26	123	04/07	1
21	Above Normal	5/25	100	00/03	0	4/27	118	03/05	1
22	Above Normal	5/26	108	02/04	0	4/28	114	03/05	2
23	Low Normal	5/27	120	15/18	2	4/29	107	10/09	3
24	Low Normal	5/28	126	15/20	3	4/30	106	11/12	2
25	High Normal	5/29	129	09/12	2	5/1	103	06/10	0
26	Above Normal	5/30	140	03/06	0	5/2	103	05/07	2
27	Above Normal	5/31	138	05/06	2	5/3	107	10/10	2
28	Above Normal	6/1	137	04/04	1	5/4	111	05/06	1
29	Above Normal	6/2	139	05/06	2	5/5	118	06/07	2
30	High Normal	6/3	136	15/17	2	5/6	120	10/09	3
July 1993									
1	Disturbed	6/4	130	37/48	3	5/7	131	14/17	3
2	Disturbed	6/5	134	37/39	4	5/8	129	37/35	4
3	High Normal	6/6	128	15/17	3	5/9	129	28/39	3
4	Low Normal	6/7	112	16/20	3	5/10	134	46/54	3

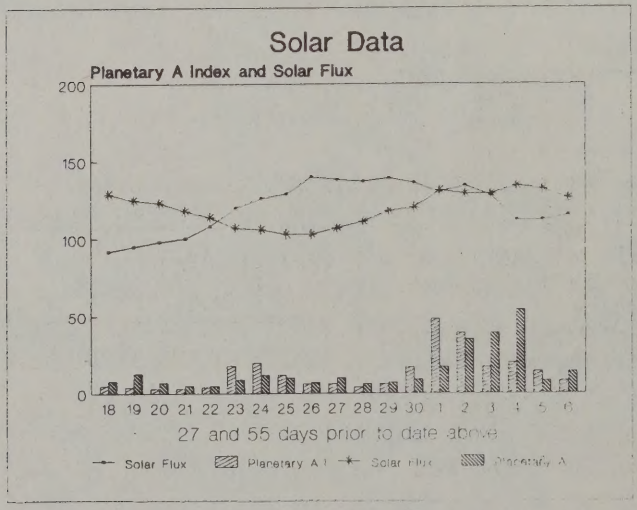
Propagation Watch

A major flare on June 7 caused a sudden ionospheric disturbance (SID), a temporary shortwave blackout of the sunlit side of the earth. Because the sunspot region that produced the flare was on the western side of the sun, the bulk of the charged particles emitted by the flare were swept toward the earth. This resulted in a major ionospheric storm June 10-11.

Meanwhile solar activity was dropped significantly, with the solar flux dropping below 90. At this level, the higher bands (15, 12, and 10 meters) are open only for north-south paths. Even 17 meters has been hurt by the drop in flux, forcing most DXers onto 20 meters.

The enhanced signal-to-noise ratios due to the grayline transition provide the best opportunities for long-haul DX. Following the sunrise or sunset terminator as it moves around the globe will yield some choice DX, but pickings remain slim for most DXers.

The low solar activity means reduced chances of significant flares. This means the polar and high-latitude baths are worth watching, especially on 20 and 30 meters. Also, E-skip has been opening six meters daily.



1993 Spratly Island DXpedition Report

by Martti Laine OH2BH

Due to last minute changes proposed by the Malaysian authorities, the expedition party had to withdraw from its vessel contract and instead charter a 16-seater Twin Otter airplane for the DXpedition...oops, flying high to Spratly Islands...

Swallow Reef (Layang-Layang) is 2000 feet by 400 feet and has a 1500-foot airstrip supporting the Malaysian occupation of the reef. With an extensive Malaysian Royal Navy presence at one end of the reef, an ideal premises for 9MØS was available at the other end. The Prime Minister of Malaysia has built a private guest house with air-conditioned facilities matching those at any Holiday Inn.

Because of the Navy presence and other restrictions, all the ETO amplifier power was left at the port of take-off and the total weight allowance was limited to 800 pounds of equipment. That last-minute prioritizing of all the valuable gear was probably the most difficult moment for this expedition. It was called the DX moment!

Compensating for the lack of power, with full understanding of the challenge provided by the East Coast of the U.S., the team quickly drafted their antenna lay-out accordingly. The Cushcraft A3S-beams were nulled, side-by-side only one wave-length apart, toward the East Coast, while the Yaesu FT-1000 radios were challenged to tolerate each other only by 100 KHz separation for these critical East Coast openings. During the most organized short openings, 14195 and 14295 KHz both provided East Coast contacts simultaneously. We are proud to present more than 3000 East Coast QSOs!

A total tally for six days of operating is 37,000 QSOs, of which more than 10K is on WARC bands. Three Cushcraft beams were used, while the potent low-band signals were a result of the dedicated efforts of Aki-san JA5DQH.

Even though the facilities on the reefs were first class, the team had to experience their share of adventure in several ways. AB6NJ and JA5DQH were suffering with high fevers and other problems. JA5DQH had a serious ear infection, and he virtually lost hearing in one ear for the entire operation. In spite of their suffering, and under medication, these nice people were still giving their maximum support to provide you a Spratly QSO.

9 MØS was a splendid example of the international amateur radio goodwill with very extensive media coverage in Eastern Malaysia. The group is very thankful for the various Malaysian governmental agencies who provided all needed permissions for this unique event, and especially to Mr. Mohd Elliza Bin Haji Hashim, the Commanding Officer of the Swallow Reefs for providing total safety for the entire ordeal.

The Malaysian Amateur Radio Society 9M2 based in Kuala-Lumpur, as well as the Sabah Amateur Radio Society 9M6, both played a key role in making this mission a success.

The multinational group at 9MØS was very honored to be able to conduct this very first amateur radio operation from the Malaysian-occupied Spratly Islands and to move Spratly down the list. We appreciated the interest of the DX community.

B • A • N • D • P • A • S • S

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

*Key to Bandpass: Callsign, frequency, UTC, day of the month, state. * = long path. P = packet.*
All "portable" calls listed with country of operation first, regardless of format used on the air.

RTTY

4N5JA	14087	2152	7	FL
4X6UO	14087	0020	12	FL
9A1CRT	14085	2211	12	FL
9Y4VU	21085	2029	12	FL
PZ1BS	14084	0055	6	CA
T5/DL1VJ	14082	0333	10	PA
TY1PS	21086	1658	31	CA
UL9P	14091	0203	12	FL

160 Meters

GD4BEG	1832	0316	3	SC

40 Meters

3D2RW	7007	1216	12	FL
5Z4JD	7012	0014	5	MA
9J2BO	7009	0443	6	MI
A35EA	7008	1123	8	KS
FK8GJ	7009	0918	4	NH
HV3SJ	7004	0240	2	IA
PZ1DY	7026	0145	5	GA
T5/DL1VJ	7003	0046	8	VA
ZA1J	7008	0259	3	SC

30 Meters

3B8CF	10104	0303	5	PA
3C1EA	10105	0041	2	VA
4U1UN	10104	0119	4	TX
9K2MU	10101	2252	7	PA
A35MW	10107	1018	12	FL
A71CW	10105	0151	2	NH
FOØKAT	10105	1111	10	PA
GU3MBS	10101	2239	7	FL
HV3SJ	10106	0135	2	VA
HZ1HZ	10100	2151	9	PA
OD5/ SP7LSE	10104	0333	9	PA
P29JA	10104	0935	31	VA
STØ/ PA3CXC	10100	2202	4	PA
T5/DL1VJ	10101	0022	2	VA
T95X	10103	0123	7	PA
TR8XX	10107	0414	5	PA
TZ6VV	10105	2339	28	VA
UD6DKW	10101	0156	10	FL
VP2MH	10107	1017	12	FL
YO3AC	10101	0115	7	TX
Z21HS	10104	1409	4	CA
ZD8DEZ	10101	2202	9	PA
ZK1AJJ	10102	0948	9	FL

20 Meter CW

3B8FG	14022	0335	6	IL
3B8FG	14021	1208	8	KS
3D2QB	14017	1234	4	VA
4J4GAT	14002	2309	9	NH
4J4JJ	14023	0014	12	FL
4K2BY	14001	0050	3	IA
4K4BAT	14011	0015	7	NH
4K4D	14003	1925	31	MI
4L8A	14006	2150	6	NH
4N5ET	14011	0117	7	KS
4N5VV	14005	2217	5	MA
4S7EA	14010	2328	10	FL
4S7WP	14022	0002	3	VA
4S7WP *	14008	1150	3	IA
4U1UN	14007	0023	9	FL
8R1J	14012	1034	2	FL
9D5CW	14004	0055	2	IA
9K2MU	14011	0014	7	NH
9K2UB	14030	2112	6	GA
9M2ZA	14024	1040	3	AL
9X5HG	14025	0235	12	FL
BV4AP	14019	1410	6	IA
BV4CT	14025	1525	6	FL
BV7BB	14003	1223	1	VA
BV7WB	14023	1145	9	VA
C31CC	14019	1748	4	NH
C91J	14015	0440	3	CA
C91J *	14014	1505	6	CA
CEØBWY	14014	0020	4	CA
CN8BK	14037	2125	3	GA
CO9VSC	14033	2255	9	FL
EJ2GSI	14016	0043	7	FL
ERØTK	14025	2325	9	GA
ER4OWQ	14033	0328	2	SC
EU8O	14027	2120	3	GA
EV7AA	14033	2043	3	NY
EV8A	14006	0217	4	VA
EV9A	14032	0254	1	NY
EV9A	14011	1619	1	VA
EX8F	14025	0244	9	GA
HKØER	14025	0131	10	GA
HKØER	14026	1707	4	GA
HS1ZHY	14019	1520	5	CA
JW5NM	14016	2149	6	FL
JW6MY	14002	1209	12	FL
NH2K	14027	1150	6	VA
OD5/ SP7LSE	14017	0235	9	KS
OX3GX	14013	2330	10	FL
OY1CT	14006	0515	2	IA
P29KH	14024	2355	8	FL
PZ1DY	14033	1132	4	MI
STØ/ PA3CXC	14026	0350	7	IA
T2ØAA	14031	1110	2	NH
T5/DL1VJ	14027	2303	4	GA
T5THW	14012	0104	4	VA
T95X	14010	0055	6	CA
TA2AI	14019	0005	8	FL
TA7M	14025	2229	11	FL
TR8LC	14010	2142	3	TX
TU2XZ	14040	2253	2	GA
UA8TAB	14020	0322	6	SC
UD6DKW	14026	0342	6	SC
UF6FN	14036	0410	6	CA
UJ8JA	14004	0020	3	CA
UJ8JMM	14018	0234	12	FL
UM8NU	14015	0225	6	SC
UO5ON	14025	2343	3	VA
USØRR	14029	0215	2	GA
V85AA	14004	1144	9	VA
VP8BCQ	14004	0205	4	VA
VQ9AC	14026	1145	4	IA
XQØX	14010	0125	7	MA
XU7VK	14031	2225	2	NH
ZA1J	14026	0124	3	GA
ZA1W	14029	0031	7	GA
ZA1Z	14023	0242	31	CO
ZB2EO	14031	2113	1	VA

20 Meter SSB

3B6AD *	14207	1134	2	NS
3C1TR	14195	0500	2	CA
4K4N	14260	1237	1	WI
4N5FK	14206	0209	1	CA
4N5PK	14198	0030	4	CA
5H3BN	14261	0435	2	IA
7Z2AB	14180	2240	3	NH
9K2JC	14244	0220	31	WI
9K2ZZ	14164	0035	31	SC
9M2SH	14186	1555	5	CA
9M8BL	14260	1520	2	WI
9X5HG	14207	0415	3	CA
BZ4SBA	14201	1605	5	CA
C3ØEJA	14195	2346	1	AL
EP2MHB	14195	2245	2	IL
FK8GM	14201	1402	3	CO
FR5DX	14274	0315	1	NY
HKØTCN	14186	0514	4	CA
HSØZAK	14223	1420	2	IA
HZ1AB	14202	2315	6	IA
JW5NM	14194	0140	7	IA
P29AE	14257	1111	30	FL
S21B	14190	1525	1	CA
S21ZG	14226	1556	1	CA
SU2MT	14207	0420	8	KS
T3ØJH	14221	1134	30	FL
T95X	14200	0035	4	CA
V63JC	14165	1202	2	NS
V63OM	14252	0545	5	KS
V73C	14199	1140	4	IA
V85PB	14200	1205	6	IA
VS6WV	14190	1125	1	NS
YI1MH	14194	0241	4	NE
Z22JE *	14207	1137	2	NS
ZS6AJD *	14207	1135	2	NS

17 Meter CW

3B8FG	18071	0349	3	MA
3V8AS	18071	1227	3	NH
4N5PK	18072	1543	9	MI
5Z4JD	18080	1453	5	NH
9K2ZZ	18071	1834	10	MI
A71CW	18073	2310	30	CA
EV9A	18075	1134	1	NS
HC5AI	18078	1637	5	SC
OD5/ SP7LSE	18073	2112	10	MI
OX3XR	18075	1256	31	NS
PZ1AP	18076	2215	12	FL
S92SS	18098	2115	29	SC
STØ/ PA3CXC	18075	1932	3	MI
T5/DL1VJ	18069	1720	9	MI
T5/DL1VJ	18069	2244	31	CA
UD6DFF	18076	0154	10	FL
UD6DKW	18072	0235	3	SC
UD6DKW	18072	1420	3	NH
UJ8JMM	18075	0228	7	SC
VQ9KC	18081	1932	2	NH
VU2OXX	18071	0224	7	SC
XQØX	18072	0102	11	MI
XQØYAF	18088	0027	4	VA
YO2BP	18077	0356	3	MA
YS1DRF	18078	0015	4	TX
Z21HS	18074	1525	5	NH

17 Meter SSB

A35CT	18150	0509	6	CA
HZ1AB	18132	2127	6	MA
VP8PW	18122	0040	9	MI
YS1XS	18133	0131	5	CA

15 Meter CW

7Z2AB	21003	2015	3	NH
C91J	21013	1530	9	NH
OD5/ SP7LSE	21005	1630	3	CO
PZ1DY	21025	0239	5	AZ
T5/DL1VJ	21029	1559	8	NH
TF3DX	21020	2235	1	CA
VQ9AC	21030	1700	1	CO
XQØX	21020	0130	5	KS
YN/ SMØOIG	21025	1349	5	IL

15 Meter SSB

3XØHLU	21313	1930	6	CA
5H3EM	21227	2306	30	WI
5X1A	21232	2043	31	CO
CEØZIS	21223	2256	31	NC
J5UAI	21327	1915	6	CA
S92YL	21286	1334	31	NS
TN1AT	21335	1459	1	VA
TZ6FIC	21241	1912	1	NC
UI8ZAA	21329	1911	1	NS
VU2DK	21297	1440	31	NH
XX9AS	21275	1350	1	NS
YBØARM	21343	1444	31	NH
YC7WZ	21289	1457	31	NH
YI1DZ	21242	1642	1	NS

12 Meter CW

FOØKAT	24895	2222	12	FL
VP2EHF	24933	2326	31	CA
ZS6FS	24894	1605	31	CA

12 Meter SSB

9K2MU	24950	1310	31	NS

10 Meter CW

XQØYAF	28010	2224	2	GA

10 Meter SSB

VR6ME	28490	0215	1	CA

Issue 693 - June 18, 1993

Current and Future DXpeditions

(Changes and hot info in **boldface**.)

DXCC Country	Prefix	Callsign	Dates	Issue
American Samoa	**KH8/**	**HB9TL**	**June 18-20**	**I684**
Bahrain	A9	A92WH	Apr. 15-June 30	I683
Belarus	UC	EV8A	Now-June 25	I691
Belau	KC6	JAs	Aug. 8-13	I691
Cambodia	XU	XU7VK	to June 30	I686
Dodecanese Islands		**SV5/N6MZ**	**June 19-20**	**I691**
El Salvador	**YS**	**YS1DRF**	**now active**	**I693**
Equatorial Guinea		3C1TR	SSB Nets	I689
Gambia	**C56/**	**DL7s**	**June 14-31**	**I687**
Gough Island	ZD9	ZD9BV	21313 1800Z	I690
Lebanon	OD5/	SP7LSE	to Aug. 1	I686
Libya	**5A**	**TBA**	**Now?**	**I681/2**
Liechtenstein	**HBØ/**	HBØ/Fs	July 17-24	I690
Macao	XX	XX9AS	21177 1300Z	I691
Madagascar	5R	5R8DG	7015 kHz 0250Z	I690
Marion Island	**ZS8MI**		**now active**	**I693**
Micronesia	**V6**	**V63SM**	**June 16-20**	**I690**
Montserrat	VP2M	/YLs	July 25-30	I691
Nigeria	5N	several	14210 2000Z	I692
North Cook Islands		**ZK1AJJ**	**June 11-26?**	**I692**
Penguin Islands	ZS1	DLs	July 24-Aug. 3	I685
Peter I Island	3Y		Feb. 1-17	I685
Pratus Island	**BV**	**BV9P**	**June 26-July 5**	**I693**
St. Pierre & Miquelon		**FP/Ws**	**June 17-24**	**I684**
		Ws/FPØ	July 9-13	I686
St. Paul Island	CY	WV2B/CY9	July 9-12	I686
San Felix	CEØ	XQØX	CW now	I681
Southern Sudan	ST0/	PA3CXC	to Sept.	I690
Taiwan	BV/	N4VA	to July	I676
Thailand	**HSØ**	**N4TMW/**	**June 19-July 2**	**I687**
Tunisia	**3V/**	**I1RBJ**	**July 1-8?**	**I693**
Uganda	5X	5X1B	21030 1900Z	I683
Wake Island	KH9		Aug. 31-Sept. 10	I692
Walvis Bay	ZS9	by DLs	Aug. 4-13	I685

Contributors

This Issue would not have been possible without the assistance of our dedicated reporters: AB4PW, AC5K, AG8L, DXNS, EADX, K1HDO, K4BAI, K4GLU, K4II, K7JA, K8JJC, K8JLF, KG4O, KG6I, KM4KJ, KM6FW, KM9J, KN4FY, KQ3S, KT7H, K4IQJ, NØABA, N1HN, N1QY, N2CG, N2GLH, N4MM, N4UU, N7NG, N9NS, OH2BH, OPDX, PS7KM, VE1RJ, VE1YX, WØJRN, W1AW, W1BFT, W1NH, W4VQ, W6BJI, W6JOX, W6UQF, W7AYY, W8CT, W8MEP, W9DH, W9HAO, WAØIWF, WA9AQE, WB2DND, and WU6T. Many thanks! -chod.

Operating Events and DX Gatherings

Dates	Event	Reference:
June 19-20	All Asian CW Contest	CQ
July 29-Aug. 1	Northwest DX Convention	I689
July 24-25	Islands On The Air Contest	
August 27-29	International DX Convention New Orleans	

Resident Amateurs on Regularly

DXCC Country	Callsign	Freq.	UTC
Albania	ZA1J	7007	0300Z
Albania	ZA1Z	20M CW	0245Z
Albania	ZA1W	14026±	0030Z
Asiatic Russia	4K4BAT	20M CW	0015Z
Belarus	EV8A	14010	0200Z
Belarus	EV7AA	14030±	21-01Z
Bosnia-Herzegovina	T95X	14200	0030Z
Bosnia-Herzegovina	T95X	20M CW	0100Z
Brunei	V85AA	14004	1145Z
El Salvador	YS1DRF	18076±	0000Z
Georgia	4L8A	14006	2200Z
Kuwait	9K2ZZ	20M SSB	0030Z
Mozambique	C91J	20M CW	0445Z
Nicaragua	YN/SMØOIG	21024±	1400Z
Reunion Island	FR5DX	14270±	0300Z
Rwanda	9X5HG	14020±	0230Z
San Felix Island	XQØX	18072	01Z Friday
San Felix Island	XQØX	14010	0130Z
Somalia	T5/DL1VJ	14027±	23-0300Z
Sri Lanka	4S7WP	14022	0000Z
Svalbard	JW5NM	14192±	0145Z
Svalbard	JW5NM	14018±	22-0400Z
Taiwan	BV7WB	14015±	1145Z
Taiwan	BV4CT	14025	1530Z
Tajikistan	UJ8JA	14005	0000Z
Western Kiribati	T3ØJH	14200±	1130Z Sunday

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